



# Quick Notes

from the Idaho Office of Highway Safety

November 15, 2010

Idaho Transportation Department - PO Box 7129 – Boise, ID 83707-1129  
P: (208) 334-8100 F: (208) 334-4430 -- [www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs](http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs)

## **General Message from the Highway Safety Manager**

Hi Highway Safety Partners,

The most recent high visibility enforcement campaign just ended. It focused on aggressive driving and safety restraints. I hope that most law enforcement agencies were able to participate in one form or another.

As many of us make travel plans for the coming holidays, please take a moment to think about distracted driving. Distracted driving comes in many forms. Our cell phones are but one of the many distractions. We should always be mindful that our vehicle can kill someone in a moment of carelessness. But if you are still tempted to pick up your cell phone when driving, here's a link to the laws in other states.

[http://www.naghsr.org/html/stateinfo/laws/cellphone\\_laws.html](http://www.naghsr.org/html/stateinfo/laws/cellphone_laws.html)

I also encourage you to address drowsy driving. As we shared last week, evidence is growing that this is a bigger issue than we previously thought. Please be sure you are well-rested before embarking on a trip. And if you get sleepy, please stop to rest.

It will soon be time to consider applying for a grant to address your local safety issues. The request for proposal period starts on January 3, 2011 and ends in mid February for the next federal fiscal year which begins on October 1, 2011. If you are considering some ideas for how to improve traffic safety in your county or city, feel free to contact a grants officer to see how we might be able to help you. The list is below.

We recently participated in a webinar on rural county safety plans. It was very interesting so I wanted to share this link with you. We are taking a look at our data from the perspective you will find on slide 16 to see how it might be of help in Idaho.

<http://www.ruralsafety.umn.edu/events/ruralcountysafetyplans/documents/WebinarSlidesNov10.pdf>

I see that Idaho has suffered 190 traffic deaths so far this year. We have 7 weeks to go before the end of the year. Let's keep up our efforts in our work and with our families and friends to remind them to make smart driving choices. Let's do all we can to keep families whole during this upcoming holiday season.

Mary Hunter

## **Office of Highway Safety Grant and Management Staff**

Do you often wonder who you are talking to when you call the Office of Highway Safety? Below is a picture of the grant and management staff at the OHS. Each of the grants officers works with particular focus areas managing grants and coordinating programs. A grants officer follows the mobilization process from the start to finish. The final step of the process is for all claims to be reviewed by our Financial Specialist, Ping Yerby.

For example if you participate in an impaired mobilization, all of the paperwork would come from Kevin, from the initial award to the claims for overtime and incentive hours.

If you ever have any questions regarding paperwork, participation or funding availability, feel free to contact any one of us.



L-R: Kevin Bechen, Cecilia Awusie, Lisa Losness, Ping Yerby, Mary Hunter, Margaret Goertz, Donna Vasquez

### Office of Highway Safety Contact Information (FFY 2011)

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P:(208) 334-8100 F:(208) 334-4430

Mary Hunter	334-8101	<a href="mailto:mary.hunter@itd.idaho.gov">mary.hunter@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Highway Safety Manager
Cecilia Awusie	334-8112	<a href="mailto:cecilia.awusie@itd.idaho.gov">cecilia.awusie@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Grant Contracts Officer (Aggressive Driving, Motorcycle Safety, Unbiased Policing, Highway Safety Coalition)
Kevin Bechen	334-4467	<a href="mailto:kevin.bechen@itd.idaho.gov">kevin.bechen@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Grant Contracts Officer (Impaired Driving, Ignition Interlock)
Margaret Goertz	334-8104	<a href="mailto:margaret.goertz@itd.idaho.gov">margaret.goertz@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Grant Contracts Officer (Youthful Driver, Alive @25 Coordinator, Traffic Records/Roadway Safety)
Lisa Losness	334-8103	<a href="mailto:lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov">lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Grant Contracts Officer (Adult Occupant Protection, Distracted Driving, Child Passenger Safety, Law Enforcement Liaison Coordinator, Trauma Prevention Advocate Coordinator)
Donna Vasquez	334-8102	<a href="mailto:donna.vasquez@itd.idaho.gov">donna.vasquez@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Grant Contracts Officer (Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety, Emergency Medical Services, Hispanic Outreach)
Kelly Campbell	334-8105	<a href="mailto:kelly.campbell@itd.idaho.gov">kelly.campbell@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Research Analyst Principal (WebCars)
Steve Rich	334-8116	<a href="mailto:steve.rich@itd.idaho.gov">steve.rich@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Research Analyst Principal (WebCars)
Ping Yerby	334-8106	<a href="mailto:ping.yerby@itd.idaho.gov">ping.yerby@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Financial Specialist
Susan Mulkey	334-8110	<a href="mailto:susan.mulkey@itd.idaho.gov">susan.mulkey@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Crash Database Supervisor (Crash/Data Reports)
Eva Escalante	334-8801	<a href="mailto:eva.escalante@itd.idaho.gov">eva.escalante@itd.idaho.gov</a>	Administrative Support